(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has no policy to ensure intake of women in various health oriented careers;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government are giving numerous and costly advertisements on the schemes for women; and

(d) the steps proposed to advertise Government's plans and achievements, if any, in the specific arena of helping women trainee as X-ray technicians and para-medics and trauma treatment technicians?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIAMTI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**PNDT Act violation through internet**

2820. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some companies are advertising to chose the gender of the foetus on the internet by clearly violating the laws of Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques;

(b) if so, the cases reported so far during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the action taken thereon, State-wise;

(d) the number of pending cases, State-wise; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to strictly implement the rule in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIAMTI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) In 2004, Reliance Infocom Ltd. was providing Reliance India Mobile Phone users/customers the services of a website as http/rworld.relianceinfo.com namely RWorld under which one of the sub menus was called "Plan a Baby" under which the company was communicating the techniques/useful tips for the purpose of ensuring and increasing the probability that an embryo would be of a particular sex. In 2006, an article in the newspaper Amar Ujala mentioned that the website www.meditest.com, www.accuratepregnancytest.com, www.gendormentor.com and www.testfarlera.com were offering the kits

for determination of sex of foetus at home. In 2006, a news published in Sunday Times of India, Mumbai, a website was selling home gender testing kits over the internet *vide* their site www.pregnancystore.com.

Navi Mumbai State Appropriate Authority and Delhi State Appropriate Authority filed court cases against Reliance Infocom Ltd. The case is pending in the Hon'ble High Court of Mumbai. In respect of other cases, Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT), Ministry of Communications and Information Technology was requested to block the websites offering these communications. It was also requested to block Google Search Engine offering selection sites violating the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act (PC&PNDT).

(e) A Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Health and Family Welfare has been constituted to consider proposed amendments to PC&PNDT Act to strengthen its implementation and related issues. The National Support and Monitoring Cell (NSMC) constituted to focus on the vulnerable States of Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Chandigarh and Delhi for strict implementation of the Act is being strengthened by appointment of one full time lawyer and an adminsitrative leader for the cell. National Inspection and Monitoring Committee (NIMC) has been expanded with incorporation of members from Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Law, National Commission for Women, Central Supervisory Board Members and NGOs to undertake more frequent visits to the States for overseeing the implementation of the Act and to conduct on the spot inspection of the ultrasound centres.

**Malaria and TB deaths in the country**

2821. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of deaths from T.B. and Malaria are reported in the country every year;

(b) the steps being taken by Government for the prevention from these diseases; and

(c) the amount spent by Government for the purpose every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIAMTI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The number of deaths